## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DOHA 00461 081308Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3544

CONFIDENTIAL DOHA 461

DEPT ALSO FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, BEXP, QA

SUBJECT: TELECONSULT PROPOSAL

REF: STATE 83220

- 1. REQUEST YOU PASS FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO TELECONSULT REPS HALVERSON AND SCRAFFORD.
- 2. ON APRIL 8, EMBOFF MET WITH JALAL MAHDI, DIRECTOR OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF GOQ MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, TO FORWARD TELECONSULT PROPOSAL (REFTEL). MAHDI EXPRESSED KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT IN PROPOSAL, STATING THAT IN ITS PRESENT FORM HE COULD NOT PRESENT IT TO THE MINISTER.
- 3. OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE IS TELECONSULT BUDGETARY QUOTE OF \$888,000 (\$1 EQUALS 3.8683 RIALS). THIS AMOUNT IS ALMOST EXACTLY SAME AS PRESENT FEE CHARGED BY CABLE AND WIRELESS TO PERFORM SAME SERVICE AND IS WELL ABOVE TELECONSULT PROPOSAL TO KEEP BELOW QTE THREE MILLION QATARI RIALS UNQTE.
- 4. IN ADDITION, MHADI ALSO ASKED FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.
- (A) DOES COST INCLUDE TRAINING IN US FOR MINISTRY PERSONNEL? IF SO, PLEASE DELETE SUCH COSTS FROM QUOTE. CONFIDENTIAL

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- (B) HOW MANY PEOPLE DOES TELECONSULT PROPOSE TO BRING TO QATAR?
- (C) WOULD TELECONSULT REQUIRE MINISTRY'S FOUR TECHNICIANS TO PARTICIPATE IN SHIFTS?
- 5. MAHDI STATED THAT ANOTHER PROPOSAL SHOULD SPECIFICALLY

STATE THAT TELECONSULT WOULD PERFORM ALL MAINTENANCE SERVICES, NOT MERELY PERFORM REQUIRED MAINTENANCE.

6. IF TELECONSULT IS STILL SERIOUSLY INTERESTED, PLEASE RESPOND WITHIN ONE WEEK AS MAHDI MUST SEND HIS RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND AMIR FOR THEIR APPROVAL. BASED ON TELECONSULT'S PROPOSAL, HE NOW ANTICIPATES CABLE AND WIRELESS RECEIVING ONE YEAR EXTENSION ON THEIR CONTRACT. KILLGORE

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT NOT PASSED.

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, PROPOSALS (BID), PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)

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